



Town of Agawam
Supplemental Town Report
and Report

of the

FINANCE COMMITTEE

For the 1956

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

MARCH 3, 1956

10:00 A. M.

Please Bring This Report With You to the Town Meeting.

Report of the Finance Committee

As representatives of the Town, the Finance Committee attempts to temper its decisions by what we believe the citizens want, rather than to promote our own personal opinions. In pursuing this policy, we are always plagued with uncertainty as to whether the Town Meeting will be conservative, forward looking, or some mixture of both.

The direction of our approach to expenditures must be decided weeks before the Appropriation Meeting and cannot be based on an election outcome or last-minute pressures. Guided as we are by a desire to serve and not for individual benefit, we accept Town Meeting decisions contrary to our recommendations rather philosophically, for certainly it is difficult to forecast the attitude of the townspeople toward expenditures.

We are pleased to learn that Francis Webler will soon return to active service on this Committee after his long critical illness. We also appreciate the efforts of the Selectmen and Department heads who have striven to request budgets as close to last year's figures as is possible with increased salaries and changed conditions. This attitude on the part of the departments has simplified our task and permitted a closer review of their services and suggestions for improving efficiency.

Because of various difficulties, it has been impossible to present to the citizens as early as we would desire, this report of our recommendations for the 1956 Town Meeting.

TOWN BUDGET

The 1954 budget was \$1,238,461 and the 1955 budget as adopted was \$1,525,304, an increase of \$286,843. Our 1956 recommended budget is \$1,714,163, an increase of \$188,859 over 1955. In making comparisons with last year's budget it is to be noted that the 1956 budget contemplates garbage collection by the Highway Department, and also the 1955 \$8,700 Machinery Fund allowance in this department is omitted. By excluding the School Department increase, the rise in the town budget is approximately \$50,000. Naturally in making comparisons, one must recognize that step-raises and the over-all \$4 a week pay increase contribute materially to the 1956 increased costs.

FIVE YEAR COMPARISON OF DEPARTMENT COSTS
AND RECOMMENDED FOR 1956

	1951	1952	E x p e n d e d		1955	Recom- mended 1956
			1953	1954		
Accounting	\$ 3,621	\$ 3,929	\$ 4,079	\$ 4,462	\$ 5,099	\$ 5,967
Assessors	8,170	8,258	9,771	10,901	12,380	14,245
Board of Appeals	616	497	539	246	330	600
Building Inspector	1,890	1,894	1,992	2,119	4,630	5,957
Business Development Commission						500
Cemeteries	425	1,406	1,701	1,216	1,217	1,022
Civil Defense	3,998	2,471	1,035	5,941	3,942	2,610
Collector	7,741	8,379	8,781	9,598	11,373	13,161
Debt and Interest	37,505	29,530	51,510	74,395	201,721	200,800
Elect'n and Regist'n	2,032	4,452	2,459	4,973	3,484	5,400
Engineering Dept.	8,415	10,109	10,429	11,988	14,756	15,925
Electrical Inspector	791	988	1,110	1,269	1,821	1,900
Fire Dept.	38,223	40,489	42,522	70,021	60,734	68,200
Fire Warden	476	562	588	674	591	575
Forest'y Tree Wrd'n ..	4,825	6,023	5,322	7,075	10,150	10,175
Gypsy Moth	255	500	500	330	500	500
Health	8,436	8,347	17,096	18,334	9,618	16,243
Highway Dept.	68,930	78,496	84,168	89,561	105,478	109,205
Law	1,902	3,384	3,966	2,436	3,290	4,500
Libraries	983	1,122	1,127	1,220	1,378	1,425
Miscellaneous	3,529	2,847	3,429	2,934	2,475	2,625
Nurse	7,505	8,045	7,836	8,741	9,002	10,165
Parks and Playgrounds	2,741	3,675	3,748	5,961	4,944	6,520
Planning Board	919	59	52	155	196	500
Plumbing Inspector	2,789	2,941	2,462	3,306	2,665	2,525
Police Department	48,661	57,863	66,099	76,636	85,420	97,341
Schools	355,760	420,144	468,196	554,583	649,956	787,127
Sealer W'gts Meas.	1,346	1,580	1,616	1,933	1,963	2,200
Selectmen	3,713	5,324	5,942	6,836	6,646	7,727
Sewers Surface Drain	13,955	17,824	22,432	20,409	22,737	25,700
Street Lighting	18,346	19,834	22,966	26,116	28,656	38,000
Town Buildings	8,475	11,014	12,581	12,656	13,270	13,936
Town Clerk & Treas.	6,275	7,578	7,576	9,337	12,125	14,122
Veterans	8,523	9,732	10,371	11,430	11,840	12,800
Water Dept.	91,538	94,936	103,867	105,411	104,081	115,168
Welfare	73,219	85,904	88,766	90,186	94,868	98,800

TRANSFERS OF EXCESS AND DEFICIENCY FUNDS

Last year's experiment of only one lump sum transfer from Excess and Deficiency apparently met with approval at the Annual Appropriation Meeting. Again, we propose that all expenditures be appropriations and one total sum be transferred under Article 71 to reduce the tax rate. This should prevent any thinking that an Article involving a transfer is favored over an Article involving an appropriation. The Excess and Deficiency Account is simply our savings account. It is an accumulation of unexpended balances from various departments and appropriations (except those specifically set aside) not used during the year and previous years, plus receipts in excess of the amount applied to reduce the tax rate.

In deciding the amount to transfer, we urge consideration of future needs, appropriations made at this Annual Meeting, and the effect on the 1956 tax rate. Surely no one cognizant of deferred capital improvements would suggest any transfer which would result in a tax rate below the present \$54. Neither would we think it ordinarily practical to reduce our available funds below \$100,000 in view of accrued liabilities and possible emergencies, regardless of the 1956 rate. However, the Overlay Reserve is in excess of \$90,000 and if emergencies occur during the year, some of this Reserve could be used to supplement the \$75,000 we recommend retaining in the Excess & Deficiency Fund.

Balance available for town use 1/1/55	\$259,272.76
Balance available for town use	\$259,272.76
1955 transfers:	
To reduce 1955 tax rate	\$159,000.00
Special meeting transfers	27,895.07
Tax title adjustments & Refund	1,669.50
	<hr/> \$188,564.57
Available balance carried into 1956	\$ 70,708.19
January 1, 1956 balance (carry over and 1955 receipts)	\$318,623.65
Less:	
Uncollected taxes	\$ 75,288.05
Special meeting transfer (1/56)	5,500.00
	<hr/> \$ 80,788.05
Balance available for town use 3/1/56	\$237,835.60
Recommended transfer for reduction of 1956 tax rate	162,835.60
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Balance for future use	\$ 75,000.

TAX RATE ESTIMATE

It must be recognized that the school problem in this Town is not merely a matter of new buildings. The cost of increased facilities is a minor share of the total expense. For instance, the net cost to the Town of the new High School bond payments for principal and interest for 1956 is approximately \$97,000. The increase in the School Department budget for operating costs of all schools is \$137,000. This increase alone accounts for \$6. of the tax rate.

The estimating of the tax rate is probably beyond the scope of a Finance Committee. However, with the cooperation of the Assessors, we again use our now rather cloudy crystal ball to predict a rate of \$56.00. In using this figure one must realize that the tax rate is determined by the appropriations, estimated receipts, amount of transfer from Excess and Deficiency, and assessed valuation. None of these factors has been definitely determined as we make our prediction.

Budget (Article 15)	\$ 1,714,163.00
Special Articles	223,704.83
Schedule A	81,408.34
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	\$ 2,019,276.17
Receipts	
Schedule B	\$585,721.61
Poll Tax	9,000.00
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	\$ 594,721.61
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Total Expenditures Less Receipts	\$ 1,424,554.56
Available Funds to Reduce the Tax	
Rate	162,835.60
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Total to be raised by taxation	\$ 1,261,718.96
Estimated 1956 Valuation	\$22,500,000.

ESTIMATED TAX RATE FOR 1956

$$\frac{\text{Amount to be Raised } \$1,261,718.96}{\text{Valuation—\$22,500,000.00}} \} \$56.00 \text{ per M}$$

	Tax Rate	Valuation	Bonded Indebtedness
1955	\$54.00	\$20,936,377	*\$2,514,000
1954	51.00	19,117,245	2,659,000
1953	45.00	18,026,245	599,000
1952	45.00	16,604,831	639,000
1951	45.00	15,207,665	389,000
1950	41.00	14,089,600	419,000
1949	39.00	13,224,375	429,000
1948	37.00	11,514,325	50,000
1947	37.00	10,469,475	70,000
1946	36.60	9,846,535	92,000

*Includes \$2,175,000 outside Bond Limit.

SCHEDULE A

1956 COUNTY AND STATE ASSESSMENTS

UNDER ESTIMATES OF 1955

AND 1956 OVERLAY

County Tax—1956	\$26,033.56
County Tax—1955 Underestimate	1,659.79
County Tuberculosis Hospital—1956	1,929.88
County Tuberculosis Hospital—1955 Underestimate	138.92
State Recreation Areas—1956	1,601.87
State Audit of Municipal Accounts	44.32
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	\$31,408.34
1956 Overlay	50,000.00
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	\$81,408.34

The Overlay Account is a sum of money set aside by the Town to take care of any and all abatements the assessors might make.

SCHEDULE B

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS FOR YEAR 1956

School Aid (Chapter 70)	\$ 94,422.65
School (Funds from Income Tax not included)	32,000.00
State Assistance for School Construction, Chapter 645 Acts of 1948	68,000.00
Reimbursement on Acc't of Publicly Owned Land	8,267.01
Income Tax	12,298.49
Business Corporation Tax	40,611.57
Old Age Tax (Meals)	2,002.92
Motor Vehicle Excise	125,000.00
Licenses and Permits	13,000.00
Court Fines	500.00
General Government (Rents Included)	6,000.00
Protection of Persons and Property	300.00
Health and Sanitation	8,000.00
Charities (other than Federal Grants for Aid to Dependent Children)	15,000.00
Old Age Assistance (other than Federal Grants)	35,000.00
Veterans' Benefits	2,000.00
Libraries	100.00
Public Service Enterprise (Water Department)	100,000.00
Interest on Taxes and Assessments	1,800.00
In Lieu of Taxes	2,400.00
Dog Licenses	1,800.00
Special Assessments	15,000.00
Housing Authority	2,000.00
1955 Overestimates on State Recreation Areas	218.97
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	\$585,721.61
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1955 RESERVE FUND TRANSFERS

This fund which caused so much confusion last year is not sought after by the Finance Committee. Actually it adds to our problems but it does eliminate the need for too frequent special town meetings by providing a limited amount of available funds for emergency, or unforeseen situations. In administering it, we have attempted to use it as little as possible. We have felt that it was not to be used to provide a service rejected by a town meeting, but only to implement the voter's decisions, correct an error, or aid in an emergency.

O'Brien's Cor. Traffic Lights	\$ 5,000.00
Chapter 90 Construction	2,000.00
Water Department	911.20
Worth Canal Dredging	800.00
Administration Bldg.	598.29
Colonial Ave. sewer	555.00
Samuel and Valentine sewer	445.00
Election and Registration	401.25
Highway Department	328.27
Engineering Department	236.34
Plumbing Inspector	150.00
Civil Defense	43.10
Dog Officer	28.50
Parks and Playgrounds	25.56
Veterans' graves	6.00
	<hr/> \$11,528.51
Unexpended Balance	8,471.49
	<hr/> \$20,000.00 <hr/>

Term Expires

Arthur W. Johnson, Chairman	1956
Benjamin S. Bassani, Secretary	1958
Hollis F. Kane	1956
Beatrice M. Barker	1957
Francis M. Webler	1957
Phil. V. Hembdt	1958

TOWN WARRANT

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Hampden ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Agawam in said County. Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to warn and notify the inhabitants of the Town of Agawam, qualified to vote in Town Affairs, to meet in the auditorium of the High School Building on Saturday, the 3rd day of March, 1956, at 10:00 o'clock A.M., then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1. To choose two or more Fence Viewers and two or more Field Drivers.

Article 2. To hear and act upon the reports of the Town Officers.

Article 3. To see what method the Town will adopt for the support of Public Welfare for the ensuing year. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the proper observance of Memorial Day, details of which are to be handled by the Board of Selectmen in cooperation with the Wilson-Thompson Post No. 185, Inc., of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Agawam Post No. 1632, and the Veterans of World War One Barracks No. 396. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 4. Recommend that the sum of \$450. be raised and appropriated for the proper observance of Memorial Day, details of which are to be handled by the Board of Selectmen in cooperation with the Wilson-Thompson Post No. 185, of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Agawam Post No. 1632, and the Veterans of World War One Barracks No. 396.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the payment of a proper charge of an Insurance Company for acting as Surety on the official bond of its officers. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 5. Recommend that the sum of \$705.50 be raised and appropriated for the payment of the proper charge of an Insurance Company for acting as surety on the official bond of its officers.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the Liability Insurance of its employees. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 6. Recommend that the sum of \$6,000. be raised and appropriated for the Liability Insurance of its employees.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for enforcement of the Dog Law. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 7. Recommend that the sum of \$250. be raised and appropriated for the enforcement of the Dog Law.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$20,000.00 from the Overlay Reserve to the Reserve Fund. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 8. Recommend that the sum of \$20,000. be transferred from the Overlay Reserve to the Reserve Fund.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, 1956, and to issue a note or notes therefor, payable within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period less than one year, in accordance with Section 17, Chapter 44, General Laws. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for insurance on Town Vehicles. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 10. Recommend that the sum of \$2,600. be raised and appropriated for the Insurance of Town Vehicles.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be expended in the Town of Agawam by the Hampden County Trustees for Aid to Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the Commonwealth. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 11. Recommend that the sum of \$200. be raised and appropriated to be expended in the Town of Agawam by the Hampden County Trustees for Aid to Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the laws of the Commonwealth.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the Contributory Retirement System of the Town. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 12. Recommend that the sum of \$22,658.43 be raised and appropriated for the Contributory Retirement System of the Town.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for Foreclosure of Tax Titles. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 13. Recommend that the sum of \$200. be raised and appropriated for Foreclosure of Tax Titles.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensations of all elective officers of the Town as provided in Section 108 of Chapter 41, General Laws, as amended, effective from January 1, 1956. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 14. Recommend that the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided in Section 108 of Chapter 41, General Laws, as amended, effective from January 1, 1956, be set as deailed in the Finance Committee report under Article 15.

Article 15. To make the necessary appropriations for the ensuing year.

	1955 Expended	1956 Recom- mended
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I. GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

LEGISLATIVE:

1. Salary—Moderator	\$ 25.	\$ 25.
Total	25.	25.

SELECTMEN:

2. Salaries:		
Chairman	1,100.	1,200.
Second Member	1,000.	1,100.

	1955 Expended	1956 Recom- mended
Third Member	1,000.	1,100.
3. Clerk	2,767.	3,089.
4. Out of State Travel		225.
5. All Other	779.	1,010.
Total	6,646.	7,724.

ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT:

6. Salary	4,379.	4,587.
7. Clerical	306.	900.
8. All Other	414.	430.
9. Out of State Travel		50.
Total	5,099.	5,967.

TOWN CLERK AND TREASURER:

10. Salary	6,200.	6,408.
11. Assistant Clerk and Treasurer	3,292.	3,671.
12. Clerical	616.	2,298.
13. All Other	2,017.	1,745.
Total	12,125.	14,122.

COLLECTOR:

14. Salary	4,472.	4,800.
15. Assistant Collector	3,292.	3,671.
16. Clerical	839.	1,500.
17. All Other	2,770.	3,190.
Total	11,373.	13,161.

ASSESSORS:

18. Salaries:		
Chairman	1,800.	2,100.
Second Member	1,500.	1,600.
Third Member	1,118.	1,600.
19. Assistant Assessor	3,292.	3,671.
20. Clerk	2,652.	2,974.
21. Part time Clerical	269.	300.
22. All Other	1,749.	2,000.
Total	12,380.	14,245.

	1955 Expended	1956 Recom- mended
LAW:		
23. Salaries:		
Town Counsel	2,000.	2,000.
Town Prosecutor	500.	500.
24. Appraisals		700.
25. All Other	698.	800.
26. Damage to Persons & Property	92.	500.
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Total	3,290.	4,500.
ELECTION AND REGISTRATION:		
27. Salaries:		
Registrars	1,200.	1,200.
Election Officers	1,261.	3,000.
28. All Other	1,023.	1,200.
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Total	3,484.	5,400.
TOWN BUILDINGS:		
Administration Building:		
29. Janitor	3,464.	3,672.
30. Clerk	2,962.	2,624.
31. Fuel, Light, Telephone	4,355.	4,700.
32. Curbing	274.	
33. All Other	1,790.	2,080.
Other Town Buildings:		
34. Feeding Hills Library Repairs		350.
35. All Other	425.	510.
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Total	13,270.	13,936.
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Total General Government ..	67,692. (4.5%)	79,080. (4.6%)

II. PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY:

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

36. Salaries	75,170.	86,041.
37. Uniforms	1,200.	1,350.
38. Safety Officer Program	154.	150.
39. Out of State Travel	79.	100.
40. All Other	8,817.	9,700.
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Total	85,420.	97,341

	1955 Expended	1956 Recom- mended
FIRE DEPARTMENT:		
41. Salaries—Commissioners	50.	
42. Salary—Chief		3,975.
43. Permanent Firemen	49,647.	52,440.
44. Volunteers	3,945.	4,000.
45. Hose	1,215.	
46. Hose Dryers		1,500.
47. Uniforms	168.	
48. Out of State Travel		100.
49. All Other	5,709.	6,185.
Total	60,734.	68,200.
SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES:		
50. Salary	1,500.	1,600.
51. All Other	463.	600.
Total	1,963.	2,200.
TREE WARDEN		
52. Salary	825.	825.
53. Labor	3,500.	3,500.
54. Equipment Rentals	1,500.	1,500.
55. Spraying	1,325.	1,300.
56. Removal of Dutch Elm Infected Trees on Town Property	1,000.	1,000.
57. Tree Planting	2,000.	2,000.
58. All Other		50.
Total	10,150.	10,175.
GYPSY MOTH CONTROL:		
59. All Other	500.	500.
Total	500.	500.
FIRE WARDEN:		
60. Labor	200.	200.
61. All Other	391.	375.
Total	591.	575.

	1955 Expended	1956 Recom- mended
CIVIL DEFENSE:		
62. Clerical	520.	600.
63. ½ Cost New Radios	867.	300.
64. Out of State Travel	12.	100.
65. All Other	2,543.	1,610.
Total	3,942.	2,610.
Total Prot. Persons & Prop.	163,300. (10.9%)	181,601. (10.6%)

III. HEALTH AND SANITATION:

66. Health Agent	5,369.	5,805.
67. Inspections:		
Animal	300.	300.
Slaughter	888.	888.
68. Salk Polio Clinic		1,200.
69. Hospitals and Other	3,061.	8,050.
Total	9,618.	16,243.

TOWN NURSE:

70. Salaries	7,041.	7,815.
71. All Other	1,961.	2,350.
Total	9,002.	10,165.

SEWER AND SURFACE DRAINAGE:

72. All Other	22,737.	25,700.
Total	22,737.	25,700.
Total Health and Sanitation	41,357. (2.7%)	52,108. (3.0%)

IV. HIGHWAYS

73. Salary—Superintendent	5,877.	5,695.
74. Clerk	2,538.	2,842.
75. Maintenance	24,777.	26,968.
76. Maintenance Oiling	18,488.	16,500.

	1955 Expended	1956 Recom- mended
77. Sidewalk Maintenance	977.	2,000.
78. Snow Removal	8,885.	9,000.
79. Road Machinery Account	8,500.	8,500.
80. New Oiling	17,277.	14,500.
81. Highway Repairs—Water Dept.	1,660.	2,000.
82. Rubbish Collection	6,923.	7,700.
83. Garabage Collection	9,575.	13,500.
Total	105,477. (7.0%)	109,205. (6.4%)

V. SCHOOLS

84. School Budget	649,710.	786,777.
85. Out of State Travel	246.	350.
Total	649,956. (43.2%)	787,127. (46.0%)

VI. WATER DEPARTMENT

86. Salaries—Commissioners	381.	381.
87. Superintendent	4,379.	4,587.
88. Clerk	622.	700.
89. Contract—Water Consumption ..	37,923.	45,000.
90. New Construction	15,146.	15,500.
91. All Other	45,630.	49,000.
Total	104,081. (7.0%)	115,168. (6.7%)

VII. CHARITIES:

GENERAL RELIEF:

92. Salaries	1,200.	1,400.
93. Relief	20,132.	21,300.
94. All Other	500.	500.
Total	21,832.	23,200.

DISABILITY ASSISTANCE:

95. Relief	3,500.	5,000.
96. Administration	500.	600.
Total	4,000.	5,600.

	1955 Expended	1956 Recom- mended
OLD AGE ASSISTANCE:		
97. Relief	55,236.	55,000.
98. Administration	2,700.	2,800.
Total	57,936.	57,800.
AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN:		
99. Relief	10,000.	11,000.
100. Administration	1,100.	1,200.
Total	11,100.	12,200.
Total Charities	94,868. (6.3%)	98,800. (5.7%)
VIII. ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:		
101. Salaries	13,445.	14,450.
102. All Other	1,311.	1,475.
Total	14,756. (1.0%)	15,925. (.9%)
IX. BUILDING DEPARTMENT:		
103. Salary	3,554.	4,887.
104. All Other	1,076.	1,070.
Total	4,630.	5,957.
PLUMBING INSPECTOR:		
105. Labor	2,550.	2,400.
106. All Other	115.	125.
Total	2,665.	2,525.
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR:		
107. Salary	1,500.	1,500.
108. All Other	321.	400.
Total	1,821.	1,900.
Total Building Inspectors	9,116. (.6%)	10,382. (.6%)

	1955 Expended	1956 Recom- mended
X. VETERANS:		
109. Salary	3,464.	3,672.
110. Clerical	400.	400.
111. Benefits	7,580.	8,000.
112. All Other	396.	728.
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Total Veterans	11,840.	12,800.
	(.8%)	(.8%)
XI. PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS:		
113. Salaries	3,926.	4,450.
114. Equipment and all other	1,018.	2,070.
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Parks and Playgrounds	4,944.	6,520.
	(.3%)	(.4%)
XII. LIBRARIES:		
115. Salaries—3 trustees	900.	975.
116. Fuel and Light	336.	300.
117. All Other	142.	150.
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Total Libraries	1,378.	1,425.
	(.1%)	(.1%)
XIII. MISCELLANEOUS:		
118. Cemetery Maintenance	795.	800.
119. Veterans' Graves	222.	222.
120. Rebuilding So. Westfield St. Cemetery	200.	
121. Annuities	600.	600.
122. Bond Debt Principal	145,000.	145,000.
123. Bond Debt Interest	56,721.	55,800.
124. Street Lighting	28,656.	38,000.
125. Board of Appeals	330.	600.
126. Planing Boards Expense	196.	500.
127. Finance Board Expense	168.	
128. Business Development Comm. ..		500.
129. Unclassified	1,682.	2,000.
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Miscellaneous	234,570.	244,022.
	(15.6%)	(14.2%)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
GRAND TOTAL	\$1,504,401.	\$1,714,163.
	(100%)	(100%)

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for School Traffic Officers. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 16. Recommend that the sum of \$5,525. be raised and appropriated for School Traffic Officers.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money toward the purchase of three new cruisers for the use of the Police Department, and to authorize the Police Commissioners to trade in three cruisers to make up the balance of the purchase price. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 17. Recommend that the sum of \$4,000 be raised and appropriated toward the purchase of three new cruisers for the use of the Police Department and to authorize the Police Commissioners to trade in three cruisers to make up the balance of the purchase price.

Article 18. To hear and act upon the report of the Centennial Committee. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be used by the Centennial Committee to pay bills incurred in publication of the Centennial Picture Album. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 19. Recommend to pass over.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the payment of bills for previous years not previously submitted. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 20. Recommend that the sum of \$167.90 be raised and appropriated for the payment of bills for previous years.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 for Chapter 90 Construction, a portion of which will be spent on Cooper Street, with the understanding that the Town will be reimbursed \$20,000.00 by the State, and \$10,000.00 by the County. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 21. Recommend that the sum of \$30,000 be raised and appropriated for Chapter 90 Construction.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,500.00 for Chapter 90 Maintenance work, \$3,500.00 of which will be reimbursed to the Town by the State, and \$3,500.00 of which will be reimbursed to the Town by the County. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 22. Recommend that the sum of \$10,500. be raised and appropriated for Chapter 90 Maintenance.

Article 23. To hear and act upon the report of the committee appointed to study the need of headquarters for the Fire and Police Departments and Civil Defense Agency. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to change the zoning of the following described parcel of land from Residence A-2 to Business A:

Beginning at the intersection of the Southerly line of Cooper Street with the newly established Westerly line of Mill Street running thence 250 feet Southwesterly along the Southerly line of Mill Street to a point; thence Southeasterly at right angles to the last described course 200 feet to a point; thence Northeasterly in a line parallel with the first described course about 350 feet to the Southerly line of Mill Street; thence Westerly and Northwesterly along the Southerly and Westerly line of Mill Street to the point of beginning.

Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of section 65 of Chapter 40 of the General Laws, which authorize cities and towns to appropriate money for the purchase of uniforms for members of its police and fire departments. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 25. Recommend that this article be approved.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the passage of an act to establish a portion of the boundary line between the Towns of Agawam and West Springfield. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$850.00 for a traffic survey of the Town for the purpose of working out a method of alleviating the traffic conditions. Said sum to be expended under the supervision of the Planning Board. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 27. Recommend that the sum of \$850. be raised and appropriated for a traffic survey of the Town, said sum to be expended under the supervision of the Planning Board.

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote permission to the Board of Selectmen together with the Personnel Board and the Finance Committee to make a re-survey of salaries and compensation, duties and classifications of all town officers and employees, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500.00 to effect the survey. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 23. Recommend that the sum of \$1,500. be raised and appropriated for bringing up to date the survey of salaries and compensation of Town Officers and Employees under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, Personnel Board and Finance Committee.

Article 29. To hear and act upon the report of the By-Laws Committee. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Moderator to appoint a committee of seven (7) to propose a set of 'parliamentary procedures' for use in conducting town meetings. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be given to the Safety Council of Western Massachusetts to be used in the School Safety Program. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 31. Recommend that the sum of \$197. be raised and appropriated, said sum to be given to the Safety Council of Western Mass. to be used in the school safety program.

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purchase of a one-half ton pickup truck for the Highway Department, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade in a 1951 pickup truck to make up the balance of the purchase price. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 32. Recommend that the sum of \$1405. be raised and appropriated for the purchase of a one-half ton pick-up truck for the Highway Department and to authorize the trading in of a 1951 pick-up truck to make up the balance of the purchase price.

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to purchase one ton stake body or pickup truck for the Highway Department. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 33. Recommend that the Town raise and appropriate \$2,475. to purchase a one-ton stake body or pickup truck for the Highway Department.

Article 34. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purchase of one new tractor and front end loader for the Highway Department and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade in the International tractor and front end loader to make up the balance of the purchase price. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 34. Recommend that the Town transfer \$3000. from the Road Machinery account and raise and appropriate \$1371. for the purchase of one new tractor and front end loader for the Highway Department and authorize trading in the International tractor and front end loader to make up the balance of the purchase price.

Article 35. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint a committee to study the desirability of the acquisition by the Town of a 22-acre tract of land off Elm Street which includes the site of the Mill Pond, so-called, for park and recreational purposes, said committee to report to a special town meeting to be held in the current year. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to erect a Ground Observer Corps observation post in Agawam. Said construction to be under the authority of the Civil Defense Department. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 36. Recommend to pass over. (We believe if this phase of Civilian Defense is desirable that it is an area proposition and should be borne by the area served and not by the community in which the post is located.)

Article 37. To see if the Town will vote to change the zoning of the following described parcel of land from Residence A-2 to Residence B:

Beginning at a stone bound on the Westerly side of Main Street and running along said Westerly side of Main Street South 30° 58' 53" East four hundred seventeen and 14/100

(417.14) feet to an iron pin; thence continuing along said West-
erly side of Main Street South $39^{\circ} 11' 59''$ East four and $43/100$
(4.43) feet to an iron pin; thence continuing along Westerly
side of Main Street South $26^{\circ} 34' 02''$ East thirty-four and $16/$
 100 (34.16) feet to an iron pin at land of E. L. Stork; thence
along the Northerly line of E. L. Stork; South $50^{\circ} 19' 58''$ West
one hundred fifty-one and $39/100$ (151.39) feet to a granite
stone bound at land of Stork and land now or formerly of
Elizabeth Madden, thence running along the Northerly line of
said Madden's land South $48^{\circ} 03' 28''$ West seven hundred and
 $20/100$ (700.20) feet to a granite stone bound at the North
Westerly corner of Elizabeth Madden's land and on the Easter-
ly side of Prince Lane; thence running along the Easterly side
of Prince Lane North $49^{\circ} 35' 32''$ West one hundred twenty-
five and $00/100$ (125.00) feet to a granite stone bound and
thence running on the same course thirteen and $61/100$
(13.61) feet to an iron pin at the Southerly side of Colonial
Avenue, thence running along the Southerly side of Colonial
Avenue North $44^{\circ} 37' 58''$ East four hundred thirty-one and
 $96/100$ (431.96) feet to an iron pin at the South Easterly
corner of Colonial Avenue and Vernon Street; thence running
along the Easterly side of Vernon Street North $45^{\circ} 22' 02''$ West
one hundred seventy and $00/100$ (170.00) feet to an iron pin
at the South Westerly Corner of land of Louis and Helen Elkas;
thence running along land of said Elkas, along land of E.
Richards, and along land of Frederick Beherens North $44^{\circ} 37'$
 $58''$ East two hundred twenty-six and $00/100$ (226.00) feet to
an iron pin at land of said Beherens; thence running along
land of said Beherens North $45^{\circ} 22' 02''$ West twenty-two and
 $00/100$ (22.00) feet to an iron pin at land of said Beherens;
thence running along land of said Beherens North $44^{\circ} 37' 58''$
East fifty-nine and $00/100$ (59.00) feet to an iron pin at the
South Easterly corner of said Beherens' land; thence running
along land of said Beherens North $45^{\circ} 22' 02''$ West ninety-
eight and $00/100$ (98.00) feet to a drill hole in the sidewalk on
the Southerly side of Reed Street; thence running along the
Southerly side of Reed Street North $44^{\circ} 37' 58''$ East two
hundred forty-two and $69/100$ (242.69) feet to a drill hole in
the sidewalk on the Southerly side of said Reed Street; thence
running on an arc of Twenty-five and $16/100$ (25.16) feet,
radius of sixteen and $00/100$ (16.00) feet to a drill hole in the
sidewalk on the Westerly side of Main Street; thence running
along the Westerly side of said Main Street South $45^{\circ} 16' 02''$
East twenty-seven and $51/100$ (27.51) feet to a stone bound
at the point of Beginning.

Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 38. To hear and act upon the report of the Elementary School Building Committee. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 39. To see if the Town will vote to change Section 8 of the Personnel By-Laws as adopted January 16, 1956 and as amended by striking out Grades F-1 and F-2, of the present section and inserting in place thereof the new section as follows, the new section to be effective January 1, 1956.

FIRE DEPARTMENT CLASSES:

Grade F-1—\$64.60; \$67.30; \$69.20; \$72.49; \$74.69 Fire Fighters

Grade F-2—\$79.90; \$82.65; \$85.40 Fire Lieutenants

Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 40. To see if the Town will vote to accept Stanley Place, as laid out by the Board of Selectmen, as a public street. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 41. To see if the Town will vote to accept Simpson Circle, as laid out by the Board of Selectmen, as a public street. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 42. To see if the Town will vote to accept Mountain View Street, as laid out by the Board of Selectmen, as a public street. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 43. To see if the Town will vote to accept Vadnais Street, as laid out by the Board of Selectmen, as a public street. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 44. To see if the Town will vote to accept a portion of Broz Terrace, as laid out by the Board of Selectmen, as a public street. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 45. To see if the Town will vote to accept Prospect Street, as laid out by the Board of Selectmen, as a public street. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 46. To see if the Town will vote to accept Walnut Street extension, as laid out by the Board of Selectmen, as a public street. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 47. To see if the Town will vote to accept Ramah Circle North, as laid out by the Board of Selectmen, as a public street. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 48. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to install a new heating system in the Feeding Hills Library. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 48. Recommend to pass over.

Article 49. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint a committee of three (3) to study the feasibility of having a Traffic Commission. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 50. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a bituminous concrete sidewalk on the Northwesterly side of Cooper Street from Suffield Street to Line Street. Said construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 50. Recommend that the sum of \$12,600. be raised and appropriated for the construction of a bituminous concrete sidewalk on the Northwesterly side of Cooper Street from Suffield Street to Line Street, said construction to be done under the Betterment Act.

Article 51. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the reconstruction of North Street from O'Brien's Corner for a distance of approximately 4,600 feet northwesterly. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 51. Recommend that the sum of \$17,400. be raised and appropriated for the reconstruction of North Street from O'Brien's Corner for a distance of 4,600 feet northwesterly.

Article 52. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the reconstruction of Federal Street from Main Street to Cooper Street, a distance of approximately 1500 feet. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 52. Recommend to pass over.

Article 53. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the reconstruction of Adams Street from a point about 300 feet west of Main Street for a distance of 1200 feet westerly. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 53. Recommend that the sum of \$4,100. be

raised and appropriated for the reconstruction of Adams Street from a point about 300 feet west of Main Street for a distance of 1200 feet westerly.

Article 54. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Storm Sewer and highway reconstruction on Homer Street, beginning at the end of the existing storm sewer to North Street. Said storm sewer construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 54. Recommend that the sum of \$13,500. be raised and appropriated for the construction of a storm sewer and highway reconstruction on Homer Street, said sewer construction to be done under the Betterment Act.

Article 55. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Storm Sewer and highway reconstruction on Letendre Avenue, beginning at the end of the existing storm sewer to North Street. Said storm sewer construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 55. Recommend that the sum of \$10,400. be raised and appropriated for construction of a storm sewer and highway construction on Letendre Avenue, said sewer construction to be done under the Betterment Act.

Article 56. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Storm Sewer on Cleveland Street and Springfield Street from end of existing storm sewer on Springfield Street in vicinity of Wilson Street, westerly to Cleveland Street; thence northerly on Cleveland Street approximately 700 feet, and highway reconstruction on Cleveland Street. Said storm sewer construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 56. Recommend to pass over.

Article 57. To see if the Town will vote to accept an easement off Brookline Avenue for purposes of constructing and maintaining a storm drain. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 57A. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Storm Sewer on Brookline Avenue for a distance of approximately

1000 feet northerly from a point 100 feet from Springfield Street and for highway reconstruction on Brookline Avenue. Said storm sewer construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 57A. Recommend that the sum of \$10,000. be raised and appropriated for construction of a storm sewer under the Betterment Act and reconstruction of highway as outlined.

Article 58. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Storm Sewer on Franklin Street beginning at about 1500 feet south of Springfield Street; thence Northerly along said Franklin Street to boundary line separating Evangelist from Picchi; thence easterly along said boundary line about 140 feet to a ditch, now a pond. Said storm sewer construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 58. Recommend to pass over.

Article 59. To see if the Town will vote to accept easements off Meadow Street for purposes of constructing and maintaining a storm drain. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 60. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Storm Sewer on Meadow Street beginning at property of Arthur J. and Eunice Bains; thence thru northerly easements to empty into a pond. Said storm sewer construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 60. Recommend that the sum of \$6,100. be raised and appropriated for the construction of a storm sewer on Meadow Street, said construction to be done under the Betterment Act.

Article 61. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Storm Sewer on Fairview Avenue from Cooper Street to end. Said construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 61. Recommend to pass over.

Article 62. To see if the Town will vote to raise and

appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Sanitary Sewer and highway reconstruction on Fairview Avenue beginning at Cooper Street to end. Said sanitary sewer construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 62. Recommend to pass over.

Article 63. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Storm Sewer on Senator Avenue beginning at the end of the existing storm sewer to Cooper Street. Said construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 63. Recommend the sum of \$13,300. be raised and appropriated for completion of the storm sewer on Senator Avenue, said construction to be done under the Betterment Act.

Article 64. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Sanitary Sewer on Senator Avenue and highway reconstruction beginning at end of existing sanitary sewer to Cooper Street. Said sanitary sewer construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 64. Provided Article 63 is adopted, Recommend the sum of \$14,750. be raised and appropriated for completion of the sanitary sewer and highway reconstruction on Senator Avenue, said sewer construction to be done under the Betterment Act.

Article 65. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Sanitary Sewer on South Street beginning at end of existing sanitary sewer a distance of approximately 1500 feet west of Main Street to vicinity of proposed Elementary School Site, and Highway Reconstruction beginning at Main Street to vicinity of said proposed School Site. Said sanitary sewer construction to be done under the betterment assesment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 65. Recommend that the sum of \$30,000. be raised and appropriated for the construction of a sanitary sewer and highway reconstruction on South Street, said sewer construction to be done under the Betterment Act.

Article 66. To see if the Town will vote to raise and

appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Sanitary Sewer and Highway Reconstruction on Greenacre Lane beginning at Cooper Street and running approximately 1000 feet. Said sanitary sewer construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 66. Recommend to pass over.

Article 67. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Sanitary Sewer and Highway Reconstruction on Rhodes Avenue beginning at Mill Street and running northerly to Springfield Street. Said sanitary sewer construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 67. Recommend that the sum of \$10,500. be raised and appropriated for construction of sanitary sewer and highway reconstruction on Rhodes Avenue, said sewer construction to be done under the Betterment Act.

Article 68. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Sanitary Sewer on Mill Street beginning at end of existing sewer at Silver Lake Drive to Cooper Street and for Highway Reconstruction from Suffield Street to Cooper Street. Said sanitary sewer construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 68. Recommend to pass over.

Article 69. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a Sanitary Sewer on Spencer Street beginning at the end of the existing sewer and running northerly approximately 500 feet. Said construction to be done under the betterment assessment act. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 69. Recommend to pass over.

Article 70. To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 670 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Acts and Resolves of 1955 entitled "An Act Relative to Increasing the Amounts of Pensions, Retirement Allowances and Annuities Payable to Certain Former Public Employees." Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 71. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Assessors to use a sum not exceeding \$162,835.60 from Available funds for the reduction of the amount to be raised by taxation during the current year. Pass any vote or take any action relative thereto.

Article 71. Recommend that the Assessors be authorized to use the sum of \$162,835.60 from Available Funds for the reduction of the amount to be raised by taxation during the current year.

Article 72. To transact any other business that may come before this meeting.

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof, one in each of the said Post Offices of said Town and one in the Riverview Market in North Agawam, fourteen days at least before the day of said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 13th day of February, 1956.

ANDREW C. GALLANO
FREDERICK C. EMERSON
WALTER T. KERR

PUBLIC LIBRARY
AGAWAM, MASS

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AGAWAM, MASS.